



ACCESS SUPPORT NETWORK

San Luis Obispo &
Monterey Counties

Why Did We Change Our Name?

- ◆ The ASN officially became the Access Support Network on July 1, 2015.
- ◆ All of our services will remain the same as we continue our dedication to all people living with HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C in the communities we serve.
 - ◆ The ASN is adopting a new name for several reasons, including better preserving our clients' privacy and confidentiality.
- ◆ In 1984, a group of people here in SLO witnessed an urgent need in the community, to provide advocacy and support for people living with HIV/AIDS, and came together to create the ASN. This became one of our most basic principles, to strive to meet the unmet needs of our communities. We have since developed other programs to fill gaps in need for our community, including the SLO Hep C Project in 2001, and we became SLO County's first certified enrollment entity for Covered California in 2014. As the ASN continues to grow, it requires a new name that better represents its dedication to access and support for all: the Access Support Network. (*ASN for short. See what we did there?*)
 - ◆ All of our contact information will stay the same, including our phone numbers, emails, and website.
- ◆ The ASN will be expanding to offer services in Monterey County. This was a direct response to the closing of Monterey County's largest AIDS service organization, leaving hundreds of already at-risk people facing homelessness and a perilous lapse in healthcare services and life-sustaining medications vital to those living with HIV/AIDS.
 - ◆ This decision was not undertaken lightly. The final decision to expand was made after vigorous fact finding missions and complex negotiations regarding funding because we wanted to be certain that this expansion would not interfere with the ASN's many established services in SLO County.
- ◆ We feel this expansion is the right thing to do, and our strength as an organization and ability to step in to Monterey County is a direct result of the incredible support we've experienced in our 31 years in SLO County.
- ◆ HIV/AIDS doesn't stop at the county line, and we are grateful to have the capacity to provide access and support where it's needed.



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